

Research Centers in Minority Institutions (RCMI) Directory

The Division of Research Infrastructure (DRI) within the National Center for Research Resources (NCRR) supports the Research Centers in Minority Institutions (RCMI) Program, which assists institutions in strengthening their research environment by improving and expanding their human and physical resources for conducting biomedical and behavioral research. These centers not only foster environments that are conducive to excellence in basic, clinical, and behavioral research, but they establish a critical mass of scientists that more closely reflects the growing ethnic and cultural diversity of the U.S. population.

Research Centers in Minority Institutions (organized by state) recruit established and promising researchers, acquire advanced instrumentation, modify laboratories for competitive research, fund core research facilities, and provide other research support.

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[Alabama](#)

Tuskegee University

[Center for Biomedical Research/RCMI](#)

Tuskegee, AL 36088

Grant No: G12 RR 03059

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RCMI Goals

- Strengthen research infrastructure through research support services
- Establish multidisciplinary core research laboratories
- Increase research capabilities for animal and computer modeling

Major Areas of Investigation

- Molecular biology, immunology, public health, epidemiology, theriogenology and environmental toxicology
- Caprine arthritis encephalitis virus model for studying immunodeficiency diseases
- Murine acquired immunodeficiency syndrome model for AIDS research
- Computational modeling of the epidemiology of AIDS in humans

Center Resources, Special Instruments, and/or Services

- Scanning and Transmission Electron Microscopes
- Image Analysis Unit
- Cell Culture and Virus Culture Laboratories
- Molecular Biology Laboratory
- Core Preparatory Instrumentation Labs
- Large/Small Animal Facilities

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California

Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science

Research Centers in Minority Institutions

Los Angeles, CA 90059

Grant No: G12 RR 03026

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RCMI Goals

- Enhance capability and competitiveness in clinical and basic research
- Increase institutional research capacity through recruitment, collaboration, and faculty development
- Provide biomedical research infrastructure in the areas of multicultural survey design and implementation, epidemiology/biostatistics, molecular genetics, medical information including telemedicine, and geographic information technology
- Expand the clinical research infrastructure to support growth in both outpatient and inpatient clinical research studies conducted at Drew

Major Areas of Investigation

- Hypertension
- Role of intracellular calcium in blood pressure elevation
- Prospective study of cardiodynamic indicators of pregnancy hypertension
- Molecular genetic studies to identify the mechanism of salt-sensitive hypertension in African Americans
- Neonatology
- Infectious diseases
- Functional and structural studies on the effect of HIV fusogenic peptide on target cell membranes

Center Resources, Special Instruments, and/or Services

- Biometry and Survey Research Core
- DNA and Molecular Medicine Core Lab
- Hormone Assay Core Lab
- Medical Informatics Core
- Metabolic Core Lab
- Translational Research Core

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Florida

Florida A&M University

Tallahassee, FL 32307

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RCMI Goals

- Strengthen faculty members' capability to achieve mainstream funding
- Enhance grantsmanship, digital library, and animal resources
- Strengthen the infrastructure for HIV/AIDS research
- Recruit new faculty and provide start-up support
- Provide research associates for faculty on competitive basis
- Establish research center for drug discovery
- Develop a neuroscience research program

Major Areas of Investigation

- Medical chemistry, pharmacology/toxicology, environmental toxicology, and pharmaceuticals
- Synthesis of potent and safe anti-inflammatory steroids
- Anti-HIV activity of azidothymidine derivatives
- Synthesis of potential anti-cancer agents
- Computer-assisted molecular design of agents targeted to specific receptors
- Development and evaluation of novel drug delivery systems including liposomes and transdermal patches
- Neurochemical and neurobehavioral alterations associated with diabetes
- Chronopharmacology of CNS drugs
- Neurotoxicology of heavy-metal exposure and pesticides
- Neurobehavioral alterations associated with prenatal cocaine exposure
- Pharmacogenetic model for sensitivity to barbiturates

Center Resources, Special Instruments, and/or Services

- Shared Instrumentation Laboratory
- Drug Development Laboratory
- Office of Grants Management
- Tissue Culture Facility
- Neuroscience Laboratory

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Georgia

- > [Clark Atlanta University](#)
- > [Morehouse School of Medicine](#)

Clark Atlanta University

Center for Cancer Research and Therapeutic Development

Atlanta, GA 30314

Grant No: G12 RR 03062

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RCMI Goals

- Enhance infrastructure for basic cancer research via the establishment and operation of the Center for Cancer Research and Therapeutic Development
- Establish and maintain core research support facilities
- Recruit additional scientists in cell and molecular biology and biochemistry, and other sciences relevant to basic cancer research
- Expand research portfolio to include social and behavioral aspects of cancer treatment and/or prevention
- Enhance productivity of all scientists
- Provide additional technical support for center scientists

Major Areas of Investigation

- Cellular and molecular events in the carcinogenesis pathway
- Determination of the role(s) of complex sphingolipids in the induction of CYP1A1 by 3-methylcholanthrene
- Signal transduction and cell transformation by the platelet derived growth factor beta receptor
- Model peptide/biocompatible polymer macromolecular complexes: new generation of biofunctional material

- Protection of tumor cells from T-cell-mediated cytotoxicity by heat shock
- Penyl group determination of proteins at physiological levels
- Recombinant antibodies against prostate cancer antigens

Center Resources, Special Instruments, and/or Services

- Molecular Biology Research Laboratory
- Electron Microscopy Research Laboratory
- NMR Center
- Mammalian Cell Culture Facility

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Morehouse School of Medicine**Research Centers in Minority Institutions**

Atlanta, GA 30310-1495

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RCMI Goals

- Establish/enhance capabilities of new research focus areas
- Support for pilot projects in HIV/AIDS research
- Support junior faculty development
- Support for key technologies in established core facilities
- Establish genomics technology in the Functional Genomics Core
- Establish a technological capability in Proteomics

Major Areas of Investigation

- The mechanisms by which chemokines affect immunity
- The role of prohibitin in regulation of ovarian follicular growth, differentiation, and death
- The nature of the transition from core particle to active reverse transcription complex
- HIV-1 gp120 protein effect(s) in glomerular endothelium

Center Resources, Special Instruments, and/or Services

- Biomedical Technology Service Facility
- Monoclonal/Polyclonal Antibody Facility
- Flow Cytometry/Cell Sorting Facility
- 2D Gel Electrophoresis
- HPLC Facility
- P2/P3 Facility

- Image Analysis/Calcium Imaging Facility
- Electron Microscopy Facility
- Molecular Genetics Facility
- Functional Genomics Facility
- SELDI Proteomics

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Hawaii

University of Hawaii

Research Centers in Minority Institutions (RCMI) Program

Honolulu, HI 96822

Grant No: G12 RR 03061

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RCMI Goals

- Enhance overall competitiveness for mainstream extramural funding by strengthening the research infrastructure for biomedicine and health
- Establish research excellence in molecular pharmacology, immunogenetic diseases, and HIV -associated disorders
- Expand capabilities of the core molecular biology facility to include DNA microarray analysis and proteomics
- Develop a biostatistics and data management core facility, and augment services provided by the computer network support facility
- Elevate excellence in patient-oriented clinical research with the intent of establishing a General Clinical Research Center

Major Areas of Investigation

- Molecular pharmacology of Hawaiian ethnopharmaceuticals
- Multiple functions of a novel family of amine oxidases: role of protein interactions in fibrotic diseases
- Development of a mouse model for gene therapy of hemophilia B using a regulated cutaneous system
- Molecular pathogenesis of airway remodeling in asthma
- Renal involvement in lupus: ethnic variation and mechanisms of progression
- Immunogenetics of acute rheumatic fever
- Pathobiology of HIV -associated disorders

Center Resources, Special Instruments, and/or Services

- Biological Electron Microscope Facility
- Biostatistics and Data Management Facility
- Computer Network Support Facility
- Molecular Biology Core Facility
- Retrovirology Research Laboratory

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Maryland

Morgan State University

Biomedical Research Center (RCMI)

Baltimore, MD 21251

Grant No: G12 RR 017581

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RCMI Goals

- Further enhance the research infrastructure and research capabilities at the institution by establishing a diverse multidisciplinary research environment that integrates information across Biomedical, Behavioral, and Environmental Health disciplines that are centered on the health concerns of the urban environment
- Establish state-of-the-art core laboratories in the areas of Cellular and Molecular Biology, Histochemistry/Cytology, and Environmental Health/Toxicology and provide support for research capabilities, technical services to investigators addressing research questions in the areas of Stress and Cardiovascular Diseases, HIV/AIDS, Neurodevelopment/Neurodisorders and Environmental Health and toxicological problems
- Provide support for faculty pilot projects in the areas of Stress and Cardiovascular Diseases, HIV/AIDS Research, Neurodevelopment/Neurodisorders and Environmental Health/Toxicology/BioSensor Research

Major Areas of Investigation

- Stress and Cardiovascular Diseases
- HIV/AIDS Research
- Neurodevelopment/Neurodisorders

- Environmental Health/Toxicology/BioSensor Research

Center Resources, Special Instruments, and/or Services

- Cellular and Molecular Biology Core Laboratory
- Flow Cytometry Laboratory
- Histochemistry/Cytology Core Laboratory
- Environmental Health/Toxicology Core Laboratory

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Mississippi

Jackson State University

RCMI Center for Environmental Health

Jackson, MS 39217

Grant No: G12 RR 13459

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RCMI Goals

- Enhance environmental health research and development to strengthen our Nation's leadership in this area
- Foster and enhance collaborative research efforts among JSU, other universities, federal and state agencies, and industry
- Establish, coordinate, and enhance broad-based competitive research capabilities and resources at JSU, thereby increasing the quality of research programs
- Facilitate mainstreaming JSU into competitive university-based research programs sponsored by NIH and other agencies
- Strengthen and enhance opportunities for faculty development, facility access, major equipment needs, and technology transfer
- Increase the pool of highly trained minority professionals in environmental health
- Serve as a resource center for the environmental health community and other HBCUs in Mississippi and the Nation

Major Areas of Investigation

- Toxicokinetics, histopathology, and genotoxic effects of arsenic and atrazine
- The effect of ultraviolet radiation on cornea and lens

- Assessment of alcohol and p-nitrophenol as risk factors in the development of breast cancer
- Evaluation of the DNA photocleavage and photoinduced toxicity of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs)
- Computational study on health-related phenomena

Center Resources, Special Instruments, and/or Services

- Molecular and Cellular Biology Core Laboratory
- Analytical Core Laboratory
- Radioactive Core Laboratory
- Animal Facility

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New York

- > [City College, CUNY](#)
- > [Hunter College, CUNY](#)

City College, CUNY

RCMI at CCNY

New York, NY 10031

Grant No: G12 RR 03060

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RCMI Goals

- Establish a "Center for the Study of Cellular and Molecular Basis of Development"
- Enable faculty to become more research competitive
- Develop state-of-the-art core facilities
- Provide start-up support for new faculty
- Support pilot projects for AIDS research

Major Areas of Investigation

- Studies on the structure and function of biomolecules
- Research on the modulation of gene expression
- Studies to understand the molecular events involved in organismal development
- Synthesis of anti-HIV compounds
- Modulation of CD4 expression by T-lymphocytes
- Phylogenetic and antigenic variation in African HIV-1 isolates
- Development of drugs for HIV-1 associated P. carinii infections

Center Resources, Special Instruments, and/or Services

- Peptide Synthesis and DNA Sequencer Facility
- FACS Facility
- NMR Facility
- Hybridoma Laboratory
- Mass Spectrometer

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Hunter College, CUNY**Center for the Study of Gene Structure and Function**

New York, NY 10021

Grant No: G12 RR 03037

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RCMI Goals

- Establish a center for the study of gene structure and function
- Recruit and develop minority faculty and students
- Develop state-of-the-art core laboratories
- Provide start-up support and labs for new faculty
- Support pilot projects for bioinformatics research

Major Areas of Investigation

- Molecular biology research on cancer and AIDS
- Role of reversible protein phosphorylation in gene induction
- Oncogene research
- Drug design and testing
- Design and synthesis of anti-HIV and antibiotic drugs for AIDS and related infections
- Neurochemical abnormalities of HIV -induced AIDS
- Neuroscience research on drug addiction and stroke
- Immunology and gene therapy vector research

Center Resources, Special Instruments, and/or Services

- Analytical Chemistry/Mass Spectrometry Core Research Facility
- Bioimaging Core Research Facility
- Biomolecular Computation and Graphics Core Research Facility

- Hybridoma and Cell Culture Core Research Facility
- Microscopy and Digital Imaging Core Research Facility
- Network Facility
- NMR Core Research Facility
- Protein Sequencing and DNA Synthesis Facility
- X-Ray Crystallography Core Research Facility

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Puerto Rico

- > [Ponce School of Medicine](#)
- > [Universidad Central del Caribe](#)
- > [University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus](#)

Ponce School of Medicine

RCMI at PSM

Ponce, PR 00732-7004

Grant No: G12 RR 03050

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RCMI Goals

- Development of biomedical research capability to resolve problems associated with the health disparities among ethnic minorities in general and Puerto Ricans in particular
- Consolidation of research programs on AIDS/HIV -1 infection and human genetics and genetic disorders in the Caribbean in general and in Puerto Rico in particular
- Development of neurosciences and environmental toxicology areas
- Recruit additional research faculty in the areas of both basic and clinical research

Major Areas of Investigation

- Studies on allergen reactivity in an asthmatic population
- Coronary vasodilation and regional myocardial function
- PCR diagnosis of perinatal HIV infection
- Glucose turnover studies in children with cerebral injury
- Diagnosis and epidemiology of AIDS-related TB using PCR
- New flow cytometric method for analyzing CD8 cell function in HIV infected individuals

- Comparison of antioxidants among healthy donors, drug addicts, and HIV positive individuals
- Effect of N-acetylcysteine on function of T4 and T8 cells from AIDS donors
- *In Vitro* effects of ciguatoxins on hepatic microsomal bio-transformation enzymes
- Ciguatoxin and myocardial function in dogs
- Metabolism and toxicity of ciguatera toxins *In Vitro*
- Hazardous trace elements in drinking water in Puerto Rico

Center Resources, Special Instruments, and/or Services

- Core Instrumentation Laboratory
- Immunology/Virology Laboratory
- Cell/Tissue Culture Facility
- Retrovirus Isolation Facility
- Optical Imaging Facility
- Animal Facility

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Universidad Central del Caribe

RCMI at UCC

Bayamón, PR 00960-6032

Grant No: G12 RR 03035

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RCMI Goals

- Increase peer-review publications
- Increase the amount of dollars available at UCC to do competitive research
- Develop and implement a plan to institutionalize the human and physical resources using internal and external funds
- Build new research facilities
- Expand existing infrastructure
- Develop a Molecular & Cellular Biology Center
- Strengthen the Retrovirus Research Center, the Center for Molecular and Behavioral Neuroscience, and the Clinical Research Center

Major Areas of Investigation

- Hepatitis C co-infection with human immunodeficiency virus: synergy of the co-infection
- Immune restoration to HAART in HIV -infected Puerto Rico children
- Modulation of synaptic formation by thyroid hormones
- DNA repair and mutagenesis
- Oxidative DNA damage and oxysterol-induced Apoptosis
- Cembranoid-induced calcium signaling

Center Resources, Special Instruments, and/or Services

- Behavioral Testing Facility
- Electron Microscopy Facility

- HIV Laboratory and HIV Data Core
- Optical Imaging Facility
- Protein & Nucleic Acid Core Facility
- Neuroscience Immunocytochemistry Laboratory

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University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus

RCMI at UPR

San Juan, PR 00936-5067

Grant No: G12 RR 03051

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RCMI Goals

- Develop research infrastructure and support services to facilitate the conduct of research related to health disparities
- Target specific areas of research-related health disparities and provide a focal point for these research activities on campus
- Promote the professional development of our research faculty and technical personnel working on this area

Major Areas of Investigation

- Health disparities
- Molecular neurosciences
- Women's health
- AIDS and emerging infectious diseases
- Molecular genetics of blood disorders
- Information architecture
- Molecular pharmacology

Center Resources, Special Instruments, and/or Services

- Core Instrumentation Laboratories
- Central Electron Microscopy Unit
- Flow Cytometry Laboratory
- Molecular Genetics Core Facility
- Center for Architecture Information in Research
- Image Analysis Resource Center

- RCMI Clinical Research Center
- Center for Maternal-Infant Studies
- Behavioral Sciences Research Institute
- Center of Excellence in Women's Health
- Caribbean Primate Research Center
- High-Performance Computing Facility

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Tennessee

Meharry Medical College

Research Center in Minority Institutions

Nashville, TN 37208-3599

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RCMI Goals

- To recruit competitive, new, junior and senior faculty who conduct research which can impact on cardiovascular disease and who will contribute to interdisciplinary research in this focused area
- To continue start-up support for recently recruited RCMI faculty to a full three years
- To enhance the competitiveness of RCMI and other investigators by providing infrastructural support for essential core facilities and postdoctoral fellows
- To support pilot projects which involve research on or related to cardiovascular disease

Major Areas of Investigation

- Cardiovascular Disease
- Cell Signaling
- Environmental Health and Toxicology
- Oral Biology
- AIDS
- Neuroscience
- Human Genetics

Center Resources, Special Instruments, and/or Services

- Molecular Biology Core Facility
- Flow Cytometry Core Facility
- Computational Biology Core Facility
- BL-3 Core Facility
- Scientific Imaging Center
- Molecular Neurobiology Core Facility
- Oral Biology Core
- Environmental Health and Toxicology Core

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Texas

- > [Texas Southern University](#)
- > [University of Texas, El Paso](#)
- > [University of Texas at San Antonio](#)

Texas Southern University

Houston, TX 77004

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RCMI Goals

- Improve biomedical and behavioral research capabilities in cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, HIV/AIDS, and environmental toxicology
- Enhance faculty competitiveness by extending research infrastructure and participation options to all biomedical and behavioral research units at Texas Southern University
- Establish a core Biomarker and Environmental Toxicology Laboratory
- Expand molecular biopharmacology and tissue culture services to University investigators
- Establish a Biomedical Research Faculty Recruitment Core
- Strengthen research infrastructure supporting M.S. and Ph.D. degree programs in environmental toxicology and pharmaceutical sciences

Major Areas of Investigation

- Amine oxidases and vascular injury in diabetes
- Pathogenesis of lead-induced hypertension
- Molecular regulation and expression of signals affecting peripheral vascular resistance in salt-dependent hypertension

- Absorption and disposition kinetics of antiviral nucleosides
- Effects of a protease inhibitor and dipyridamole on disposition kinetics of antiviral drugs
- Information-based assessment and effect of instructional intervention on risk reduction of HIV transmission among minority populations

Center Resources, Special Instruments, and/or Services

- Office of Research Resources
- Tissue Culture Facility
- Analytical Toxicology Core Laboratory
- Molecular Biopharmacology Laboratory
- Small Animal Facility

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University of Texas, El Paso
El Paso, TX 79968-0587

Grant No: G12 RR 08124

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RCMI Goals

- Expand the Border Biomedical Research Center for a sustained biomedical research effort
- Recruit new faculty including senior level biomedical sciences faculty to reach a critical mass in the areas of infectious diseases, toxicology, and neurological and metabolic disorders
- Provide graduate degree opportunities in biomedical sciences for underrepresented, primarily Hispanic students
- Enhance the research infrastructure for faculty support to achieve sustained competitive excellence in border biomedical sciences research and address targeted biomedical issues critical to the Texas-Mexico border

Major Areas of Investigation

- Infectious diseases
- Basic molecular research of infectious agents
- Host & parasite interactions
- Metabolic and neurological disorders
- Physiological research on metabolic disorders
- Etiology of disease processes
- Toxicology
- Environmental toxins
- Etiology of cancer

Center Resources, Special Instruments, and/or Services

- Biochemistry/Molecular Biology Core Facility
- Cell Culture Facility
- Analytical Cytology Facility
- Statistical Consulting Laboratory

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University of Texas at San Antonio
San Antonio, TX 78249-0603

Grant No: G12 RR 13646

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RCMI Goals

- Enhance research capacity at the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) and in South Texas by establishing the Cajal Neuroscience Research Center (CNRC)
- Establish collaborations with research institutions in South Texas
- Develop excellence in computational and molecular neuroscience
- Develop a core facility that will support neurocomputation and enhance UTSA's capability for electron microscopy
- Support developmental projects in neurobiology
- Organize a year-long seminar in neuroscience

Major Areas of Investigation

- Aging and Genes in Learning and LTP
- Estrogen Replacement Therapy and Neuron Structure
- Biophysical mechanisms of Hebbian Mossy Fiber LTP
- Specification of Serotonin Cell identity in Drosophila
- ApoE-4 and A Beta Influence on Development of AD
- Spatiotemporal Structure of Visually Evoked Cortical Waves

Center Resources, Special Instruments, and/or Services

- Neurocomputational and Neurovisualization Facility
- Transmission Electron Microscopy Facility

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[Washington, D.C.](#)

Howard University

[Research Center in Minority Institutions](#)

Washington, D.C. 20059

Grant No: G12 RR 03048

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RCMI Goals

- Expand biomedical infrastructure by developing specific core research units
- Enhance administrative research capability
- Support developmental human genome research

Major Areas of Investigation

- Molecular Computations and Bioinformatics, Pharmacokinetics
- *In Vivo* NMR Spectroscopy for Pharmacokinetics Protein Interactions and function of I Q Motif-containing proteins

Center Resources, Special Instruments, and/or Services

- Molecular Computations and Bioinformatics Core
- Biostatistical Research Support Unit
- Administrative Research Support Office
- Biomedical NMR Core Laboratory

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